

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 05552 141752Z

62

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MC-02 TRSE-00 PM-04 DODE-00 L-03

H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 COME-00 /051 W

----- 014369

R 141730Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6981

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 5552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS CONTROL AND AGENTS FEES

REF: STATE 255260

1. SUBJECT OF AGENTS FEES OF SUCH SENSITIVITY TO GOM THAT, ACCORDING TO IMPRESSION WE HAVE FROM DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, KING MUST BE DIRECTLY CONSULTED ON ALL RELATED POLICY MATTERS. IN KING'S PROTRACTED ABSENCE FROM CAPITAL AND TOTAL PREOCCUPATION WITH SAHARA DISPUTE, GOM OFFICIALS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL.

2. WE NEVERTHELESS KNOW THAT MOROCCAN LAW FORBIDS PAYMENT OF AGENTS FEES ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS. INCLUSION OF SUCH FEES IN EITHER FMS OR COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS, OR OTHER NOTIFICATION THAT SUCH FEES HAVE BEEN PAID, WOULD RESULT IN GOM REFUSAL TO SIGN.

3. IN OUR VIEW, HOWEVER, GOM WOULD WELCOME OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION THAT NO FEES HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY GIVEN CONTRACT. THIS WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF HELPING DETER IMPROPER PRACTICES IN CONSONANCE WITH MOROCCAN LAW, WITHOUT PLACING AMERICAN VENDORS AT COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE.
NEUMANN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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